25X1A
Approved For Release 1999/09/10 : CIA-RDP83-00423R001040001-3

OO/A 61451
CD NO.
OO/C NO.
ORR NO.
DAS NO.
CCI NO.
STATE | ARMY
NAVY | AIR

CONFIDENTIAL

India/Pakistan

Indo-Pakistan Relations Deteriorating

25X1A [redacted]

25X1A [redacted]

1

25X1X [redacted]

1. "Indo-Pakistan relations went through a series of dramatic developments during August. On August 9, Sheikh Abdullah, Prime Minister of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, and chief Muslim protagonist for the state's accession to India since the crucial days of partition in 1947, was dismissed from his post by the Head of the state and arrested. Sheikh Abdullah had receded in recent months from his previous views and was advocating an independent status for, at least, the Kashmir Valley; this had apparently lead to serious differences of opinion inside the Kashmir cabinet and the National Conference (Government Party). A new cabinet under Mr Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed was introduced and had to cope with considerable initial unrest in the state where the personal following of Sheikh Abdullah is very strong.

2. "In India, where agitation against Sheikh Abdullah had been most vociferous, particularly among right wing parties, his eclipse was hailed as a step towards closer and friendlier relations with the Kashmir state, while public opinion in Pakistan was outraged to such an extent that Prime Minister Mohammad Ali flew to New Delhi on August 16 for urgent talks with Mr Nehru. His reception in Delhi was as cordial as that of Nehru in Karachi in July, and great hopes for an immediate improvement of relations between the two countries were entertained when the Prime Ministers announced in a joint communique their agreement to have a Plebiscite Administrator introduced in Kashmir before the end of April 1954 and to hammer out 'preliminary issues' relating to the plebiscite during the intervening months. The reception of the communique in Pakistan, initially skeptical, turned into open hostility when it became known that India was looking for some new plebiscite administrator from a neutral country instead of Admiral Nimitz, long ago nominated by the Security Council of the UN. There has been a further interchange of notes between the two Governments, but the small silver lining which had appeared during the Delhi talks has vanished. Giving in to strong pressure from press and public opinion the Pakistan Government has reversed recent orders for retrenchment in and reduction of expenditure on the armed forces of the country."

July. Arrede 19 1954

25X1A [redacted]

25X1A [redacted]